

Claims:

sub All

1. A software system for generating, from a first page description file  
2 having portions wherein each portion includes content, a second page  
description file, comprising:
  - 4 a computer-readable medium; and
  - a routine stored in the computer-readable medium and including
    - 6 a first routine that provides for generation of a template,
    - a second routine that provides for extraction of data indicative
    - 8 of the portions of the first page description file to generate a database
    - for storing the data indicative of the portions of the first page
    - 10 description file, and
    - a third routine that generates the second page description file
    - 12 from the template and the database.
2. The software system of claim 1, wherein the first routine provides a  
2 user interface for establishing placeholders in the template.
3. The software system of claim 2, wherein the user interface  
2 comprises a page make-up software application and a placeholder definition  
routine for establishing the placeholders in the template.
4. The software system of claim 3, wherein the page make-up software  
2 application comprises QuarkXPress®.
5. The software system of claim 1, wherein the first routine generates  
2 the template in accordance with the portions of the first page description file.

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15. The software system of claim 14, wherein the fourth routine provides a user interface for modifying the data stored in the database.

2 16. A method of generating, from a first page description file having  
portions wherein each portion includes content, a second page description file,  
the method comprising the steps of:

4 generating a template;

6 extracting data indicative of the portions of the first page description  
file to generate a database that stores the data indicative of the portions of the  
first page description file; and

8 generating the second page description file from the template and the  
database.

2 17. The method of claim 16, wherein the template generating step  
comprises the step of establishing placeholders in a file developed in a page  
make-up software application.

2 18. The method of claim 16, wherein the template generating step  
generates the template in accordance with the portions of the first page  
description file.

2 19. The method of claim 16, wherein:  
the database comprises a plurality of fields; and  
4 the data extracting step comprises the step of characterizing each  
portion of the first page description file as an instance of at least one of the  
fields of the plurality of fields of the database.

2           each portion of the first page description file comprises a first data  
portion and a second data portion; and

21. The method of claim 20, wherein the first data portion of each  
2 portion comprises content data and the second data portion of each portion  
comprises control data.

23. The method of claim 16, wherein the template is associated with a plurality of pages to be printed in a book.

24. The method of claim 16, wherein:  
2 the template is one of a plurality of templates;  
the database comprises a plurality of records; and  
4 each record in the database identifies a certain template of the plurality  
of templates.

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